

MINUTES OF MEETING  
RUSH RIVER WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT  
CASS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
JUNE 21, 2016

The Rush River Water Resource District met on June 21, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cass County Highway Department, West Fargo, North Dakota.

Present were William A. Hejl, Chairman; Richard Sundberg, Manager; Jacob Gust, Manager; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasury; Kathy Grueneich, Administrative Assistant; Sean M. Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Mike Opat, Engineer for the Board; Brady Woodard, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Jay Meyer, property owner in Harmony Township; Arnold Knight, Lloyd Knight and David Strand, Amenia Township residents.

**Minutes**

It was moved by Manager Gust, seconded by Manager Sundberg and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2016, meeting.

**Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2015-01**

Mike Opat reported that seeding on Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2015-01 is acceptable and reviewed the *Engineer's Statement of Cost*. It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to approve *Contractor's Application for Final Payment No. 3* regarding Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2015-01. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2015-02**

The Board decided to table Drain No. 2 Improvement Project No. 2015-02 until the channel is deauthorized by the Corps of Engineers. Mr. Opat was directed to look into right of way relating to the project.

**Animal Damage Control**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to hire USDA Wildlife Services to remove 1 beaver dam in Section 13 and 3 beaver dams in Section 27 of Erie Township. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**Reports / updates**

Manager Gust reported on the Water Topics Overview Committee meetings held on June 14 and 15, 2016, in Minot concerning the use of quick-take eminent domain. Sean Fredricks explained to the committee what a quick-take involved and the importance of

the continued use of quick-take for water development projects in the state. A subcommittee was formed, but a meeting has not yet been scheduled. A number of legislators voiced opposition to the use of quick-take for drainage projects, unless a large number of residents benefit from the project.

Manager Gust said a large amount of work continues on the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

Manager Sundberg reported on the recent Red River Joint Water Resource District meeting. A Canadian Court determined the lawsuit over the Manitoba Border Dike near the Lower Pembina River was not the proper jurisdiction to hear the case. Manager Sundberg also mentioned briefly a recent public meeting on drain tile, cost-share requests that were acted on for Lake Bertha Flood Control Project No. 75 in Cass County and Michigan Spillway Flood Control in Nelson County.

Manager Sundberg said the next Rush River Watershed Planning Team meeting will be in July.

#### **Project WET 2016**

It was moved by Manager Sundberg and seconded by Manager Gust to sponsor one educator/youth leader within the Rush River Water Resource District to attend a Project WET Program in 2016. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Bills**

It was moved by Manager Gust and seconded by Manager Sundberg to approve payment of Checks #4158, #4165 through #4172, and the electronic funds transfer, as presented. Upon roll call vote, the following Managers voted in favor: Hejl, Sundberg and Gust. The Chairman declared the motion passed.

#### **2015 Audit**

Manager Gust made a motion to approve the 2015 Audit, as presented. Manager Sundberg seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **2017 Budget and 2016 maintenance levy assessments**

The board worked on its 2017 budget and 2016 maintenance levy assessments.

#### **Comments from David Strand regarding the mission and goals of Rush River Water Resource District**

David Strand spoke about the mission and goals of the Rush River Water Resource District. Manager Hejl acknowledged his comments and pointed out the large spectrum of work handled by the Water Resource District. Mr. Strand would like to see more action towards water storage within the Sheyenne River watershed. Mr. Opat pointed out that Baldhill Dam was conceived for water supply and recreational use, but was later raised 5' for flood control. He said there have been years of studies conducted in the watershed, but the various entities have not been able to agree on pursuing a project. Mr. Strand commented that he is not opposed to the Metro Flood Diversion Project.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, it was moved by Manager Gust, seconded by Manager Sundberg and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

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William A. Hejl  
Chairman

ATTEST:

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Carol Harbeke Lewis  
Secretary-Treasurer